

Application No. 09/664,165
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REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-19, 21, 23, 24, 27-34, 36-38 and 43-46 are pending in the present application. The Office Action specifies that: (1) claims 5, 6, 23, 24, 33, 34, 36-38, 43, 45 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,205,481 in view of USPN 6,003,084; and (2) claims 1, 3, 8-19, 21, 27-32 and 44 are allowed.

In response, Applicants have hereby canceled the rejected claims 5, 6, 23, 24, 33, 34, 36-38, 43, 45 and 46.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Craig Plastrik, at 301-601-7252, so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,



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